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East Europe Report

POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

(FOUO 6/80)



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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

FORMER CZECH COLONEL ON ALLEGED CZECH INVOLVEMENT IN TERRORISM

Milan L'EUROPEO in Italian 10 Jun 80 p 26

[Text] Is it possible that the great puppeteer of Italian terrorism is in Prague? And that he acts as the long arm of the Soviet Union, the power most interested in destabilizing the Italian political situation, therefore in keeping Italy, the advanced bastion of Western defense, in a state of great weakness? This hypothesis, from a strictly technical point of view is believable: for 34 years, in fact, the Czechoslovak services have been carrying out important missions on behalf of their Soviet colleagues, who prefer to act through the various secret services of Eastern Europe, all of them tightly controlled by Moscow, a sort of "division of labor." These are precious connections for the Soviets, especially in Great Britain, where the Czechoslovaks were able to rely during the postwar period, and can still rely, on good contacts with some of the leaders of the Labor Party. And also in the United States: the Rosenbergs, as was revealed in 1977 by the Czechoslovak historian and dissident, Karel Kaplan, were in 1948 already known to a Czechoslovak network which was operating in the United States in contact with the Soviets.

Also Italy attracted some time ago the interest of the secret services of Prague: as was revealed by a Czechoslovak former agent who had fled to the West, in part, the financing of the Alto Adige terrorism during the Fifties came from Prague. There was an obvious interest in creating instability in a wedge of the Italian Alpine sector that was very close to Eastern Europe and of great military importance. More recently, there have been visits to Prague by exponents of the armed struggle in Italy, for instance, Fabrizzio Pelli, the terrorist who died in prison.

But why were the Czechoslovak secret services able to have precise connections with Italian terrorism? And in what strategy would be inserted the eventual Soviet plans for destabilization or, better, for contribution to the destabilization (the substantial autonomy of terrorism is, in fact, never underestimated in a country like Italy).

These two questions were addressed by us to a former colonel of the Czechoslovak armed forces who has been for some time in exile in Western

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Europe. The high official was never involved in operations. He was involved in ideological problems within the armed forces. In 1968, however, he was called to be a part of the special office organized by the men of the Prague Spring within the CPCZ Central Committee to revise and reorganize the function of the secret services.

What interested the Dubcek group was above all a return to legality in the work of the 11,000 agents of the security service operating within the territory, a substantial reduction of the immense network of 100,000 informers and a progressive elimination of the very close relations which exist between the Czechoslovak and Soviet secret services in foreign operations. The official prefers to remain anonymous. We will call him, to make it simple, "Colonel Walter."

First of all, Colonel Walter rules out with almost absolute certainty a fact which, repeated all over Italy, seems to have acquired considerable substance, if only from passing from mouth to mouth, and that is that there exists in Czechoslovakia, at Karlovy Vary to be exact, a training camp for terrorists: "It would be a serious imprudence to create a structure of that type in a relatively small country and where there exists, even though underground, a strong opposition. Terrorists in training, even if in small groups, are noticed sooner or later. It would be naive to do this in the heart of Europe when the Middle East and North Africa have offered, and offer, areas which are much quieter and much farther from indiscreet eyes."

What does exist at Karlovy Vary, explains Colonel Walter, is a center for instruction in the Czech language for foreign students who are preparing to attend Czechoslovak universities. It is in practice run, like all the institutions of its type in Eastern Europe, by the security services: "It serves also for the recruitment of "elements" judged particularly "suitable." But there is nothing military, nothing which approaches training for guerrilla warfare in all this."

About the operations possibly implemented by the Czechoslovak secret services in Italy lately, Colonel Walter cannot say very much: "Even if I had remained in Prague, even if I were a part of the new regime, I would not know anything about these things. Half a dozen people at the most know anything about them, often without each other's knowledge. These are, in any event, games which are very rarefied and sophisticated."

What kind of action could, then, the Czechoslovak secret services develop? "It could be, especially at the beginning, help in procuring arms. At first, there could be simple contacts, behind which there would be the desire of Prague, and therefore of Moscow, to know in what broad direction the men of Italian terrorism are moving, step by step. To suggest something, to put in contact various forces of different countries, and undoubtedly to supply the connections for a military training at a good level, as undoubtedly some of the Italian terrorists have had."

The existence of a camp in South Yemen, run by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, was revealed a few days ago by Spanish authorities after the arrest of four terrorists of the ETA [Basque Fatherland and Liberty Group] who had received their military training there. "Personally," says Colonel Walter, "I am convinced that the secret services of the East have established precise contacts with European terrorism and Italian terrorism in particular. For the Soviets, it is a matter, in fact, of developing, even through the de facto alliance with terrorist groups, a strategy in the confrontations of Western Europe, which has not changed since the years of Stalin. Moscow has always considered all of Europe, from 1945 on, as its own potential zone of influence. The Americans, with Roosevelt, had said several times to Stalin that they would remain on the continent at the most for 2 years. It did not happen that way, as everyone knows. And since then, the Soviets have followed the line of a victory "mutilated" by the American presence. In substance, they have tried to decrease the American influence. The men who, today, still represent such a policy are in part the very ones from the Stalin period: Gromyko, Suslov, Ponomarev. The alliance with the terrorism of Western Europe may be seen by the Soviets, in my opinion, precisely as one of the necessary instruments."

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POLAND

BRIEFS

KANIA TRIP--Stanislaw Kania, the new number-one man in Poland, will make a trip through all the capitals of the East Bloc countries, following which he will present his economic program. [Text] [Paris PARIS MATCH in French 10 Oct 80 p 32]

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ROMANIA

ACTIVITY OF MILITIA CRIMINALISTICS INSTITUTE

Bucharest PENTRU PATRIE in Romanian May 80 pp 6-7

[Interview with Col Ion Anghelescu, chief of the Institute of Criminalistics of the General Inspectorate of the Militia, place and date unknown, by Haralamb Zinca]

[Text] Zinca: Comrade Colonel, in preparing myself for this interview, to which you have kindly agreed, I asked myself: where do I begin? And, I answered: Perhaps with a self-criticism.

Anghelescu: Self-criticism? You? Right here, in our institute? Why not over at the Writers' Union?

Zinca: Yes, I admit that my starting with a self-criticism appears strange. Let me explain... In 1952, when I was writing "Case R-16," my first adventure book, I was dealing with problems of criminalistics, among other things, without having even the most elementary understanding of this field. I do not remember how many times I told myself to visit a criminalistics laboratory.

Anghelescu: I understand. But, to temper your self-critical zeal, I must tell you that currently many authors of police stories do not show an understanding of criminalistics and do not understand the juridic place of criminalistics in criminal investigations... So that...

Zinca: Thank you. I hope that you agree with me that we have hit upon the opening to our discussion. Comrade Colonel, you are the chief of an institute whose name stirs up lively curiosity. Generally speaking, the words "crime," "criminal," "criminalistics," and "criminology" can make a person curious. Let us satisfy, therefore, this curiosity as well as space will permit us.

Anghelescu: Currently, criminalistics is a science. When I say currently, I am refering to the fact that it has gone done a relatively short dialectic path to be established as a science. The objective of criminalistics? Allow me to read from the definition drawn up under the aegis

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of the institute to answer your question: "Criminalistics can be considered that science which elaborates and uses technical-scientific means and methods, as well as tactical procedures, for the discovery, determination, revelation, examination and interpretation of legal investigations and for the carrying out of technical-scientific expertise and consultations for the purpose of preventing and uncovering violators and other infractions of the law, indentifying the perpetrators and administrating the necessary tests to find the truth in the legal process." As you can see, the science of criminalistics has a noble goal...

Zinca: "Finding the truth in the legal process," is a truly fascinating theme. I remeber Vitoria Lipan in Sadoveanu's "Baltagul," who set out in search of the truth regarding the mysterious disappearance of her husband, without knowing of the existence of criminalistics.

Anghelescu: Vitoria Lipan, this exceptional symbol of Romanian women, reminds us, among other things, of that historical era when the representative of the law started with "empty hands" on the complex path of establishing the judicial truth.

Zinca: When did this collision between the legal activities of the police with "empty hands" and criminalistics occur?

Anghelescu: The beginnings of criminalistics in reality means the beginnings of expertise in judicial investigations, that is, in establishing the truth. The idea was born in 1893 and belongs to the examining magistrate Hans Gras. He was the first investigator who felt the need to call upon techincal-scientific means to test the innocence or guilt of the one suspected of having committed the infraction.

Zinca: In 1893! Hans Gras felt the need to have a technical and scientific contribution in his work. I deduce from this that the sciences during this era were making advances that this examining magistrate decided to put to use in the service of justice.

Anghelescu: Exactly... First of all, psychologists demonstrated that testimonials are sources susceptible to certain errors of perception or to certain profoundly emotional states. Dactiloscopy appeared, with each person having his own fingerprints. A fingerprint at the crime scene can mean, as you writers beautifully say, "the calling card" of the perpetrator. But, this fingerprint must be discovered, "lifted," studied, compared and interpreted and this operation can no longer be done by the policemen or the examining magistrate, but by a specialist, an expert. Later, cameras were used which, at that time, improved the technical-scientific means in the complex process of establishing the truth. These means could not be used except by experts who, at that time, worked outside the criminal investigation organs. From these notions,

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we get the concept of experts and expertise. We also get the beginnings of a social activity that was, over the years, to become what we today call the science of criminalistics. Over time, the criminal investigation organs of the police or the examining magistrates organized their own technical-scientific investigation laboratories for checking clues taken from the crime scene and their own experts and specialists, with society legally formalizing their activities.

Zinca: Does the history of criminalistics have "a birth certificate" as a science? Is there a founder of this science?

Anghelescu: One who made an essential contribution to the founding of criminalistics as a science was Edmond Locard. He is the one who, at the beginning of the fourth decade of this century, put together the varied practices of criminalistic expertise, drawing together in his work the bases of criminalistic expertise, the methodology of extracting and interpretating clues and the place of criminalistic expertise in the judicial process.

Zinca: Comrade Colonel, if I did not have three decades of literary activity behind me, I would take up criminalistics. I would ask you now to tell us how criminalistics evolved in Romania?

Anghelescu: We can state correctly that Romania was among the first countries in the world that had technical-scientific elements in the organization of its police. The ruler Nicolae Sutu published in 1847 a work, "Rules That Must Be Observed in Watching For and Investigating Guilt," where we find several rules for criminalistic techniques and methods. Judicial photography was used in Romania in 1879. We must state, however, that without the creative contribution of certain important people, such as the Minovici brothers, H. Stahl, M. Kernbach and others, criminalistics in our country would not have had such an impetuous development. In 1931, a technical-scientific police service was created in Bucharest, staffed by specialists and experts. In 1939, the experience of this service was generalized in the framework of the General Directorate of Police. Criminalistic laboratories were created and specialists trained. The greatest progress in criminalistics came after 23 August 1944, within the framework of the General Directorate of the Militia. Specialized formations were established throughout the country. A period of quantitative progress followed, which, in 1968, produced a qualitative advance - the Institute of Criminialistics within the framework of the General Inspectorate of Militia.

Zinca: In other words, 12 years have passed since its creation. Currently, what does the institute represent in our judicial system?

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Anghelescu: Right from the beginning, I would like to stress the attention and assistance that our party and state leadership has given to the institute and its field of activity. Without the moral and material support of the authorities within the framework of our socialist society, we would never have succeeded, in such a relatively short time, in achieving such a substantial and efficient qualitative leap forward. Right from its first steps, the institute was equipped with ultramodern equipment. This supply of equipment, I would say, has been uninterrupted. I do not want to bore the readers of PENTRU PATRIE with the technical and scientific names, but nonetheless I would like to note that in recent years we were equipped with an atomic installation, naturally specifically for criminalistics, with a laboratory for providing identifications from sounds made during the infractions, the so-called legal phonoscopy, with laboratories for anthropometric expertise and for the analysis of micro-clues through the use of x-ray fluorescence, and with laboratories for photogrametry, the method of stereographic photography, and with lasers. As you see, we are talking about laboratories with complex equipment of a highly technical nature. For that reason, their use is entrusted to certain scientists and certain specialists with higher training. We are carrying out difficult and complex studies, stemming from day-to-day cases, and, at the same time, we are carrying out on a broad front, with the help of the most capable criminalistic officers in our country, research activities for the improvement of Romanian criminalistic science.

Zinca: Can we today talk about a Romanian school of criminalistics?

Anghelescu: Categorically, yes. And, we do not exaggerate when we say that this school, in creatively absorbing both its own traditions and world criminalistic advances, has taken on its own clear shape and form, with remarkable contributions also recognized on the worldwide scale. Just in recent years, Romanian researchers patented 27 discoveries and inventions for criminalistic science.

Zinca: Comrade Colonel, would you please review some of these Romanian contributions?

Anghelescu: With pleasure. I would, first of all, like to point out a reality of which we are rightly proud. Many of these patents were made by criminalists who work in the laboratories in the counties. For example, the researchers in Galati and Alba made a device for showing invisible tracks left on rugs. With the naked eye, you do not see anything. You would not even say that someone had walked on the rug and yet this Romanian device shows you the much sought after tracks. The officers from Braila finished a device for the development of film in daylight. The officers from Maramures and Galati produced a method of identifying woody materials on the basis of tree rings and structural defects. This creative

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effort of Romanian criminalists have a single purpose: to improve technical-scientific methods in establishing the truth as requested by legal investigations and processes. We are bringing our significant contributions to international symposia and congresses, and we are carrying out an intense exchange of scientific information with similar institutes in other socialist countries, as well as with other countries. I feel, however, that our grandest achievement, as a natural result of bringing together activities of the institute and other criminalistics laboratories in Bucharest and throughout the country, has been the writing of the five volume, first Treatise of Criminalistics Practice in Romania, an efficient working instrument for all Ministry of the Interior personnel. So far, the first two volumes have come out and the third is in preparation.

Zinca: I have been listening to your answer with great interest. Certainly, any criminalistics activity draws upon the spirit of its own country. In the world, however, and especially in the highly industrialized countries. a scientific-technical revolution is taking place. What influence is this revolution exerting upon the science of criminalistics?

Anghelescu: An expectedly large influence. First of all, the technical-scientific revolution is bringing about an improvement in the content of the science of criminalistics by requiring new investigatory techniques at the crime scence and new criminalistics expertise, techniques that must be mastered. Second, the influence of the technical-scientific revolution is being felt in the methods, procedures, techniques and means used in criminalistics through the criminalists' adaptation of the methods, procedures, techniques and means of modern physics, chemistry, biology, medicine, anthropology, phonetics, information science, cybernetics, mathematics and psychology, adapting them to the requirements of uncovering violations and identifying the perpetrators.

Zinca: Thus, criminalistics science, in continuing to develop, is placed in the position of assimilating the modern advances of the other sciences.

Anghelescu: The advances made by worldwide criminalistics since 1950 are spectacular, if we do not forget that up until then the technical-scientific methods of the criminologist were limited to just dactiloscopy, traseology, ballistics and toxicology.

Zinca: Comrade Colonel, I think that several specific examples of new, modern methods, presented in a somewhat didactic manner, would be of great interest to the readers, and not just Zinca who has been listening wide-eyed to an excellent Romanian policeman.

Anghelescu: I would be glad to. There is, for example, the x-ray fluroscopy which permits the examination of alloyed metals in the case of counterfeit money or the examination of powders and particles of glass left at the crime scene, especially in traffic accidents. With the help of electron

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microscopes, we are studying microscopic traces of an organic or anorganic nature. By examining a strand of hair with the electron microscope, the expert criminologist can establish a series of data, including the distribution of pigments at the cortex and their forms, the internal structure of the cuticle, the design of the cuticle and the status of changes in the cuticle throughout the length of the strand, the degree of deterioration and the diagnosis of the pathology of the hair strand.

Zinca: Ah ha, the classical strand of hair which, starting with Sherlock Holmes and all the detectives and policemen invented by writers, was found and raised high with enigmatic joy!

Anghelescu: Until the scientific-technical revolution, a strand of hair did not tell the expert criminologist too much. Today, the expertise reveals, if I can put it this way, the "biography" of a hair strand, showing not only the area of the body from which it came, but also the sex of the person and the blood type of the person who left it at the scene. Another modern method, called chromotography, helps us to precisely identify drugs, inks, synthetic fibers and the remains of a fire, and it helps us to identify bogus drinks and coffee. Soon, we will also use, as I have said, the laser in the field of criminalistics identification.

Zinca: Are there within this remarkable framework of modernizing the scientific-technical means of criminialistics Romanian contributions designed, in their own way, to advance international criminalistics?

Anghelescu: The patents that I mentioned earlier are, if you wish, contributions of the Romanian school to criminalistics.

Zinca: I suppose there is an hierarchy to these contributions?

Anghelescu: I know what you are asking me, but I am afraid that I will not be understood too well. In the field of criminal phonetics, if you have ever heard of it, Romanian criminologists, together with specialists in criminal psychology, have come up with a method of identifying persons according to their voice and how they speak Romanian and a method of identifying objects according to noise. Similarly, we have made a significant contribution in the use of computers to identify persons according to their fingerprints. This entire creative effort of the institute, its specialists and our foreign collaborators has a single purpose: to make a scientific contribution to the establishment of the truth in the criminal process so that, as comrade Nicolae Ceausescu said, no innocent person will be punished and any person who commits a crime will be punished according to his guilt.

Zinca: Once again, comrade Colonel, I ask that you expand on your statement by giving some examples.

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Anghelescu: Somewhere in Bucharest there was a fatal traffic accident. A man was killed, the driver abandoned his car, a privately comed car, and disappeared. The case appears simple. It is just a case of establishing who owns the car. It was shown that it belonged to citizen I.N., who dazedily claimed his car had disappeared. In other words, at first glance, the man appeared innocent. Nonetheless, the militia had certain doubts about I.N.'s sincerity. The dilemma was solved by an expert criminologist. Here is how: at the moment of car's impact with the victim, the windshield was broken. The broken glass should have also been thrown onto I.N.'s clothes. As a result, his clothing was subjected to analysis and, with the help of spectroscopy, glass particles were discovered. Faced with this evidence, I.N. admitted his guilt.

Zinca: Can you give us a more complex example?

Anghelescu: Certainly, but I thought that this magazine reserved only two pages for us, not an entire issue. Bucharest taxi driver S. was detained by criminal investigation organs on the suspicion of having murdered a youngster, A. from Sibiu. The driver disputed the charges, and he asked for an investigation. Evidence was found, brought forward and analyzed by the experts in the institute. For example, in a tub which the murderer thought he had washed clean of any traces of his monsterous act, experts armed with ultramodern means found traces of blood. In analyzing them, the blood type was established. It was identical to that of the victim.

Zinca: Now I want to ask you for an example where criminalistics expertise proved the innocence of an unjustly accused person.

Anghelescu: The example I am going to give has some unpleasant aspects and for that reason I will present it in a succinct manner. A young girl claimed that she had been mistreated and raped by her friend at his house. All the data pointed towards the young man, who could not understand the girl's thirst for revenge. He had to be tried. Several days before his hearing, he invited the girl to his house where he had a discussion with her that was recorded on tape. His former girl friend admitted her motives for the revenge, her desire to humiliate him and to bring him before the law. The young man gave the prosecutor the tape, while the young girl denied that the voice was hers. The court asked for our expertise. We used the method of identifying a person according to his voice and way of speaking Romanian, and we established the truth. The voice and words belonged to the revengeful girl, and she admitted her guilt.

Zinca: What is the contribution of criminalistics in the prevention of crime?

Anghelescu: Naturally, one specifically. Criminalistics cannot replace criminology, but it can contribute to the prevention of criminal acts

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in its own way: video-recording and photographing certain negative states of affairs that could become the source of certain crimes and, naturally, identifying them, participating in broad publicity activities and presenting certain films regarding the reconstruction of crimes, making photographic displays of certain criminals, introducing certain criminalistic traps into the crime prevention system and inventing alarm systems.

Zinca: Comrado Colonel, we are near the end of our discussion. For that reason, I am going to ask some quick questions. Is there any similarity between the criminalist we see in literature, in films and on TV shows and the real one?

Anghelescu: Up to a point. Currently, there is confusion, however, between the field criminalist, who by law is charged with carrying out criminal investigations, and the expert criminalist of whom I have spoken about up until now and who, according to our laws, cannot carry out criminal investigation activities. Usually, although the expert criminalist is the one who gives the field criminalist the assurances, authors constantly place him in the same activities.

Zinca: What is your opinion of police stories?

Anghelescu: Good... As long as they present the victory of good over evil and, naturally, maintain an appropriate artistic level.

Zinca: Is there a perfect crime?

Anghelescu: No, certainly, no. The criminal act, no matter how subtly it may be committed, cannot hide from the technico-scientific methods of criminalistics based upon more and more modern devices.

Zinca: Could it happen that one day the laboratories of criminalistics will eliminate the detective and oblige the shrewd mind of Sherlock Holmes to withdraw?

Anghelescu: Your question is not too happily put. The ultramodern equipment of the laboratory is, in essence, human intelligence in the service of human intelligence. In our case, the intelligence of the detective is called upon to fully cooperate with the science of the criminalistics laboratory.

Zinca: Comrade Colonel, I know that you are an assiduous researcher and inventor in the field of criminalistics. What are you working on now?

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Anghelescu: On a study regarding the deontological code of the expert criminalist... a code of ethics for the expert criminalist. It is an original work, stemming from the current activities of the Institute of Criminalistics. Similarly, I am working, together with a large collective of specialists, on writing the first criminalistics dictionary in Romania.

Zinca: Comrade Colonel Dr Ion Anghelescu, I want to thank you in the name of this magazine and its readers for this interesting and instructive discussion. We wish the institute new successes.

Anghelescu: Thank you. For my part, I hope you include in your future books this especially interesting relationship between the field criminalist and the expert criminalist.

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